



MARCH 2020

Public EV Charging in West Seattle

In May 2019, Seattle City Light hosted a survey to collect feedback from West Seattle residents about a proposal to install two electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers on 39th Avenue SW, between SW Oregon Street and Fauntleroy Way SW. Below is a summary of the feedback received, along with answers to frequently asked questions.

WHAT IS SEATTLE CITY LIGHT'S PUBLIC EV CHARGING PROGRAM?

City Light is installing 20 publicly accessible EV fast chargers throughout the utility's service area. Chargers will be distributed across the service area to make charging accessible to all customers.

The utility is running this pilot program to own and operate EV fast chargers in order to understand the impacts of EV charging on the electrical system and to support the City's Drive Clean Seattle initiative, which strives to remove barriers to EV adoption and reduce carbon emissions across the transportation sector.

The utility currently owns and operates EV fast chargers in Beacon Hill and at City Light's South Service Center in SODO.

WHAT IS CITY LIGHT INSTALLING IN THE WEST SEATTLE AREA?

Two EV fast chargers will be installed on the west side of 39th Avenue SW, between SW Oregon Street and Fauntleroy Way SW.



Example of an EV fast charger

WHEN ARE THESE EV CHARGERS EXPECTED TO BE OPEN?

Construction is scheduled to start in late March 2020. This work is estimated to last approximately two to three months. City Light anticipates that these chargers will be available for public use then.

HOW WILL THIS EV CHARGING STATION IMPACT 39TH AVENUE SW?

The EV chargers will be installed along the sidewalk, and two existing parking stalls will be designated for EV charging only. City Light estimates the station will be used five to fifteen times a day in the first year. This may increase in later years as more people transition to EVs. There are currently 8,000 EVs registered in Seattle.



Street view of proposed EV charging location on 39th Avenue SW

HOW WILL PARKING BE CONFIGURED AT THIS SITE?

Parking for EV charging will be located at the south end of the strip of the tail-in parking stalls, with one non-EV spot between the two EV charging spaces. Since many EVs have charge ports in the front of the vehicle, the EV stalls will be designated as head-in parking. City Light will be building these EV charging stalls to meet ADA clearance requirements.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON EV CHARGING IN THE WEST SEATTLE AREA

In May 2019, City Light surveyed residents in the West Seattle area regarding a proposal to install two EV fast chargers on 39th Avenue SW, between SW Oregon Street and Fauntleroy Way SW. The utility sent notifications out to local residents, neighborhood media groups and community stakeholder organizations to inform them about the proposal and online survey.

Out of 238 survey responses, 86% support the proposed EV charging site on 39th Avenue SW. Generally, respondents found the site favorable for the following reasons:

- *The site is located near local retailers and other amenities.*
- *The site is convenient and accessible from major arterial roads such as Fauntleroy Way SW and the West Seattle Bridge.*
- *The site provides public EV charging infrastructure options in an area where charging is limited.*

Out of the 238 survey responses, 13% of the respondents shared concerns with the site.

- *Respondents were concerned about the restrictions for non-EV drivers as the parking location transitions from general public use to public EV charging use only.*
- *Concerns were brought up about using public right-of-way to install EV charging infrastructure over commercial parking lots for EV charging.*

- Respondents commented on the low density of retailers and amenities in the area, compared to other areas in the West Seattle Junction.
- Some respondents were concerned about potential traffic and congestion at this site.

WHY DID SEATTLE CITY LIGHT SELECT THIS LOCATION? WHY ISN'T THE PROPOSED SITE CLOSER TO THE WEST SEATTLE JUNCTION?

The proposed charging site was selected because of its accessibility to high-volume arterial roads such as Fauntleroy Way SW, 35th Avenue SW and the West Seattle Bridge. The site is located near several stores, apartments and other amenities, which have limited options for on-site EV fast charging.

City Light investigated several locations throughout the West Seattle area before proposing the 39th Avenue SW site. These locations weren't feasible due to the lack of high-voltage electrical service resulting in high site development costs. Additionally, City Light is prioritizing site selection of municipally owned property which limits the number of feasible sites.

HOW WILL PARKING BE ENFORCED AT THIS SITE?

Parking stalls are limited to one hour of use. EVs that are charging can park in the designated charging spaces. Parking restrictions will be enforced by the Seattle Police Department. Vehicles that violate these restrictions will be issued a \$124 fine or towed away at the owner's expense.

WHAT TYPE OF PLUGS WILL THE EV CHARGERS HAVE?

Each charger will be equipped with CHAdeMo and SAE Combo connectors. These will allow all EVs capable of fast charging to use these stations. Tesla vehicles must buy an optional adapter to use the CHAdeMo chargers.

HOW MUCH IS IT TO USE THE EV FAST CHARGER?

Depending on the time of day, charging costs can be \$0.31 or \$0.17 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). See the table to the right for time of day charging costs. Costs may be updated annually.

At a City Light fast charger in Seattle, a typical electric car could charge up to 50 kWh in an hour, providing battery power for about 165 miles. This charge would cost approximately \$15.88 during "Daytime" hours or \$8.69 during "All Other Hours."

MORE INFORMATION

For questions or comments, please contact us at SCL_ElectricVehicles@seattle.gov or (206) 684-3800. Learn more about our program by visiting seattle.gov/light/electric-vehicles.

2020 EV Fast Charger Costs (per kWh)

Daytime	
Monday – Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	
Cost to charge (per kWh): \$0.3175	
All Other Hours	
Sunday (all hours)	Monday – Saturday 12:00 a.m. – 6:59 a.m. 7:01 p.m. – 11:59 p.m.
Cost to charge (per kWh): \$0.1737	